

1 **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

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3 A compact endothermic catalytic reaction
4 apparatus for converting hydrocarbon feedstock and
5 methanol to useful gases, such as hydrogen and carbon
6 monoxide, comprising a tubular endothermic catalytic
7 reactor, a radiant combustion chamber and an annular
8 convection section. Thus tubular endothermic catalytic
9 reactor receives radiant energy from a metal fiber
10 burner that is disposed within the radiant combustion
11 chamber. Combustion products from the radiant chamber
12 enter an annular convection section wherein heat is
13 transferred by forced convection to the tubular
14 endothermic catalytic reactor. The combination of
15 radiant and convective heat transfer results in a
16 compact design of high thermal efficiency.

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